

MHB

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 15, 2002

Via Fax (202-307-1454)

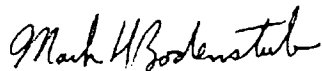
Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I would first like to express my opposition to the anti-trust lawsuit filed by the Department of Justice against Microsoft three years ago. There was no justification for this attack. I am a firm believer that government shouldn't involve itself with the private business sector unless public safety or the environment is in jeopardy. In the antitrust case filed against Microsoft, neither of these issues was in question. So why did our government, at both the state and federal levels, find it necessary to sue Microsoft?

Microsoft has agreed to make many changes in the way that it will conduct business. This fact, coupled with constant monitoring of Microsoft by a government created committee, should be enough to ensure that Microsoft will continue to operate in a fair manner. I feel Microsoft has been more than generous in appeasing the demands of the Department of Justice. Microsoft is even still vulnerable to future lawsuits by its competitors if they feel Microsoft isn't fully complying with all the points of the proposed settlement.

Our country and our economy need this lawsuit settled. This country has been through some difficult times. The absolutely last action we need is to see our Federal government continue this pursuit of Microsoft: it is an absolute *waste* of tax dollars. Our nation knows that our economy is ailing. Yet we go after and persecute the one company that has been a pivotal force in our country's economic growth. Please let's put an end to this, and allow Microsoft to continue its innovation and help to revitalize our economy.

Sincerely,



Mark H. Bodenshtab

cc: Senator Rick Santorum (Fax: 202-224-1229)